

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05

CIAE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 PRS-01 /037 W

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P R 241347Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4470

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

S E C R E T AMMAN 2739

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EG, SY, XF

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER'S COMMENTS ON ASSAD-SADAT MEETING

1. HAD OPPORTUNITY FOR SHORT DISCUSSION WITH PRIME MINISTER RIFAI AT AIRPORT PRIOR TO KING'S DEPARTURE FOR PARIS. HE TOLD ME HE HAD NO CONCRETE INFORMATION YET ON SADAT-ASSAD MEETING, BUT ASHRAF MARWAN HAD PROMISED TO MEET KING IN PARIS AND BRIEF HIM ON DEVELOPMENTS. PRESUMABLY RIFAI WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ISSUE ON ARRIVAL IN WASHINGTON IF THAT IS OF ANY INTEREST TO US. RIFAI SAYS HE DOUBTS VERY MUCH IF ANY REAL COORDINATION WILL RESULT.

2. RIFAI NOTED SEVERAL POINTS WHICH STRUCK HIM AS SIGNIFICANT IN STATEMENT ISSUED AT END OF MEETING. FIRST THERE WAS NO MENTION OF PALESTINIANS BEYOND STOCK FORMULAS. THE OMISSION OF THEM AS A FACTOR FOR SPECIAL ATTENTION INDICATED TO RIFAI THAT SADAT HAD PREVAILED ON THAT POINT. SECONDLY, RIFAI NOTED,

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THE STATEMENT SEEMED TO PERMIT ANY OF THE ARAB

PARTIES TO GO AHEAD WITH ANOTHER STEP WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF ACHIEVING A GENERAL SETTLEMENT. THIS
TOO HE SAW AS AN EGYPTIAN POINT.

3. MY BRITISH COLLEAGUE TOLD ME AT THE AIRPORT
THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF A SADAT VISIT HERE
MAY 16-18 WAS DISTURBING THE SCHEDULE FOR THE
KING'S VISIT TO LONDON. JORDANIANS NOW SEEM
ABOUT AS CONFIDENT AS EVER THAT THE OFT-POSTPONED
SADAT VISIT WILL REALLY MATERIALIZE AND ARE TRYING
TO HURRY THEIR LONDON APPOINTMENTS TO GET BACK IN
TIME.
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

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